

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NRC-05 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02

INR-07 IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03

PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00

NSC-05 /093 W

----- 117555

R 071554Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1975

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USNMR SHAPE

CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

S E C R E T BONN 12757

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MBFR, GW, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: OPTION III: FRG HOLDING TO PREVIOUS
POSITIONS

REFS: (A) USNATO 4047

(B) USNATO 4096

1. THE FRG'S FIRST STRING MBFR TEAM IS NOT IN TOWN.
BOTH AMBASSADOR ROTH AND FRED RUTH ARE ENJOYING THE
EUROPEAN HEAT WAVE SOMEWHERE OUTSIDE OF BONN, WITH
THE DISARMAMENT COMMISSIONER NOT EXPECTED TO RETURN
UNTIL THE END OF THE MONTH. RUTH WILL BE BACK SWELTER-
ING IN THE FONOFF ON AUGUST 11. AS A RESULT OF THE
ABSENCE OF THESE TWO KEY PEOPLE, THE FONOFF'S SECOND
TEAM HAS BEEN FIGHTING A DELAYING ACTION ON POSITIONS
PREVIOUSLY TAKEN BY THE GERMANS. ACCORDINGLY, IT SEEMS
MOST UNLIKELY THAT ANY BRACKET PLACED ON THE VARIOUS
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TEXTS CAN BE REMOVED ON AUGUST 7.

2. AS FOR THE REASONS WHY BONN HAS BRACKETED PARA 20 IN THE DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE (REFTEL A, PARA 9), THERE IS REALLY NOTHING NEW TO ADD. THE GENERAL FEARS PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED BY THE GERMANS ABOUT THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS LANGUAGE FOR FUTURE GERMAN AIR FORCE REDUCTIONS STILL APPLY. BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES, THE GERMANS CONTINUE TO WANT TO LOOK AT THIS ISSUE VERY CAREFULLY.

3. AS FOR THE FINAL POSITION THAT THE FRG WILL TAKE ON THE "MIGHT" OR "WOULD" WORDING WITH REGARD TO A NUMERICAL COMMON CEILING, OUR WORKING LEVEL SOURCES HAVE INDICATED THE FRG WILL COME DOWN ON THE SIDE OF "MIGHT." THE GERMANS WOULD IDEALLY LIKE TO FIND SOME LANGUAGE BETWEEN (A) SETTING A SPECIFIC NUMERICAL COMMON CEILING AND (B) OBTAINING SOVIET AGREEMENT TO THE CONCEPT OF THE COMMON CEILING (REFTEL B, PARA. 9). HOWEVER, THEY HAVE THUS FAR NOT BEEN ABLE TO ARTICULATE THIS DESIRE IN THE FORM OF DRAFT LANGUAGE FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE ALLIES. IT THEREFORE SEEMS LIKELY TO US THAT BONN'S ULTIMATE DECISION WILL BE TO AGREE TO THE US-PREFERRED LANGUAGE.
HILLENBRAND

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